suggestions, with regard to certain low cost non-hazardous agro technique for qagrarian prosperity. The position that a number of recommendations like use of bio-fertilizers, crop residue management, control of diseases and pests through biological control, manipulation of agro-techniques and use of crop resistance varieties, etc. are already being practised to the extent possible. Further it had always been the endeavour of the Government to suggest cost effective agricultural strategies practices to the farming community for not only to sustain but also to increase food-grain production in the country.

Control of Left blight epidemic in Crops

505. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that leef blight epidemic in crops can be controlled by the cow dung slurry spray in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to popularise the technology among the farmers throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No such effective technology has been developed so far by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Agricultural Universities.

Promotion of Agro forestry and Orchards

506. SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote agro-forestry and orhards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India is promoting agro-forestry and orchards in the country under following project:—

(i) National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Areas.

(ii) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project.

(iii) Integrated Watershed management in the Catchments of Floods Prone River.

(iv) Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Zone and Temperate Fruits.

(v) Elimination of Jhum cultivation in Nagaland.

(vi) Establishment of nutritional gardens in rural areas.

Crop Insurance Scheme

507. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a crop insurance policy on experimental basis in 1991-92;

(b) if so, the areas and crops for which the scheme was implemented;

(c) the achievements of the scheme till date and whether this scheme is to be expanded to included all the crops and areas of Haryana; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) The present Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is in force in the country since 1-4-1965. The scheme is an area based and credit linked scheme applicable to all